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## US 'super PAC' goes on attack for Gingrich

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The faltering White House campaign of Republican Newt Gingrich is getting support from an independent, pro-Gingrich committee launching a series of attacks on frontrunner Mitt Romney, dubbing him a "predatory corporate raider."

The ads from a so-called "super PAC," or political action committee, come as Gingrich himself has denounced weeks of crippling attacks on him in Iowa from another group linked to the Romney campaign.

The new ads come from the "Winning the Future" PAC which was formed just in December in support of Gingrich, the former US House speaker who has been sagging in the polls since a bump late last year.

The group is among the so-called "super PACS" which, following recent Supreme Court rulings, can raise and spend unlimited funds without being subject to the limits of individual candidates.

The PAC says Romney, a former Massachusetts governor who used to head the private equity group Bain Capital, "was not a capitalist during his reign at Bain. He was a predatory corporate raider."

"His firm didn't seek to create value. Instead, like a scavenger, Romney looked for businesses he could pick apart. Indeed, he represented the worst possible kind of predator, operating within the law but well outside the bounds of what most real capitalists consider ethical," the PAC said.

*Continued on page 6*

## Aruba Prime Minister leads delegation to Nicaragua

ORANJESTAD -- The Prime Minister of Aruba has been invited by the Nicaragua Ministry of External Affairs to attend the inauguration of newly re-elected President of Nicaragua. Mike Eman will represent the Dutch Kingdom and lead the Dutch Kingdom delegation. President elect, Daniel Ortega Saavedra, who was re-elected last November 6th will serve another term in office as the President of Nicaragua.

The delegation accompanying the Aruba Prime Minister includes the Prime Minister of Curacao, Gerrit Schotte and the detaché of the Dutch Kingdom in Managua, Reina Buijs.

Because of Aruba's strate-



gic geographic position and the promotion of Aruba as a Gateway to the Americas for Europe and from Europe, Aruba has become of great interest to the region.

While in Nicaragua the Aruba government will use the opportunity to promote this strategic position of

Aruba. It is remarkable that the Aruba Prime Minister is honored by the Dutch Kingdom to be their official representative for this austen-tious occasion. This is a reflection of the exceptional position of Aruba and indicative of her special relationship with the Dutch Kingdom.

## Venezuela plans 'clear' response to US expulsion of envoy

SANTIAGO (AFP) - Venezuela said yesterday it plans a "clear and firm" response to the expulsion by the United States of its consul to Miami, who has been accused of involvement in a cyber-attack plot.

"At the right moment, we will give a clear, firm and timely response" to Washington's decision to expel Livia Acosta Noguera, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Nicolas Maduro said.

Maduro made his remarks at an impromptu press conference as he arrived at the Chilean Foreign Ministry headquarters in Santiago, along with his counterparts

from Chile and Cuba, for a meeting of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC).

Maduro gave no further comment on the expulsion of Acosta, but said, saying that "right now, our agenda is the union of Latin America."

A documentary airing last month on the by Spanish-language Univision television channel indicated that in 2007, the Venezuelan diplomat was involved in a plot to commit

cyber-attacks against US nuclear facilities.

The attacks allegedly were proposed to her by a Mexican computer expert, Juan Carlos Munoz, while she worked at the Venezuelan Embassy in Mexico City.

Acosta assured Munoz she had direct access to advisers of President Hugo Chavez, who wanted to be kept informed of the alleged plot, Univision reported.

*Continued on page 5*

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## Digicel fires up new promotional campaign...Gratis pa un y tur



Last Friday, Digicel's "promo team" took to the streets to each of our Roundabouts to remind everyone about their campaign...Gratis pa un y tur (free for one and all). They choose the most trafficked Roundabout. In the morning

hours they headed to the San Nicolaas Roundabout, then to the Santa Cruz and the Seroe Blanco Roundabouts.

In the afternoon hours they tracked over to the Tanki Flip and Paradera Roundabouts, as well as to the area in front of the Royal Plaza in Oranjestad.

The Digicel campaign is about clients sending 5 SMS to any number and receiving their SMS-es for the remainder of that day completely free. This is for up to a maximum of 100 SMS and is valid only for Digicel to Digicel contacts.

Also in the campaign is a component for international calls. Every client who calls Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, Santo Domingo, Holland or

the USA who enjoys long conversations and speaks for 5 consecutive minutes can continue their conversation for 10 minutes and pay only for the first 5 minutes. Thus, the first 5 minutes of a long distant call is completely gratis.

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ting their network and enjoying the support of many clients in Aruba.



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Recently, the Aruba Tourism Authority honored a group of loyal Visitors at the Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort as Distinguished Visitors and Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10 to 19 consecutive years (Distinguished Visitor) and 20 or more con-

secutive years (Goodwill Ambassador).

The honorees were Mr. Mark and Mrs. Elena Ulitsky, Mr. Alla and Mrs. Adela Ulitsky, Mr. Yury and Mrs. Gretta Benin and their sons Lawrence and Andrew Benin, Mr. Igor and Mrs. Lyudruila Khlevner and Mr. Richard and Mrs. Leslie Feldman.

All of the honorees are loyal members of the Divi

Phoenix Beach Resort and they have one thing in common: they love Aruba, the people, beaches, restaurants, casinos in one word "everything" Aruba has to offer to its visitors.

The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Avril from the Divi Phoenix activities desk.





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## Lago Heights Fun Hoppers celebrate 30th anniversary



Thirty years ago, Mrs. Carmen Bislip began an exercise group for Ladies in the Centro di Barrio Lago Heights in San Nicolaas. This gym club, Lago Heights Fun Hoppers, which met every afternoon, grew and became a gym club for older ladies. They kept their bodies and minds fit and alert and organized different kinds of activities for members and friends. Today, they are not so young anymore, but they are still very vital and active. This past week they met together in the EPI Restaurant to celebrate their 30th anniversary. The cel-

ebration was replete with good food and fun karaoke singing as they reminisced over the past 30 years.

The Group began back in 1981 in a class at the current Police School in Lago Heights, which back then was the Centro di Barrio Lago Heights. Back then gym and physical activity wasn't in fashion, but was simply a means of recreation. Using cassette recordings of Jane Fonda, the ladies, ranging in ages 14 to 84, came together to do physical exercise. In the course of time the emphasis on health and physi-

cal activity became more prominent and more and more women from within and outside of the barrio became part of the group in Lago Heights. The voluntary group leaders also grew to about five ladies who led the exercises. These women are still with the group today. The stalwarts behind the group are: Carmen Bislip, Ilda Connor, Erna Arends, Olga Leslie, Brontie Dupersoy and Joyce de Vries. Joyce de Vries is the coordinator of the group's activities. Mrs. Mathilde Zaandam, who now resides in Holland, was also

part of the group for many years and was instrumental in guiding the physical activities of the group.

The Group continues to exercise to this day except that they now use DVD's from various international physical trainers. All of the participants are women of advanced ages...and they simply have lots of fun.

They meet every day to exercise and frequently would organize social activities, such as local tours around the island.

During the 30 year celebration event they took a look back at the past years and focused on the highpoints of those years. They had words of praise and thanksgiving for all

those who voluntarily supported the group during the 30 years.

They were very grateful for the gifts they received from several sponsors on the occasion of their anniversary.

Anyone interested in joining the Lago Heights Fun Hoppers are more than welcome. They meet every day in the building above the Centro di Barrio Lago Heights right next to the baseball field.

There are morning classes from 8:30 to 9:30 and afternoon classes from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. For more information, feel free to call telephones 584-5651, 584-6712 or 584-7278.





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## Curfew in Nigerian city after church attack

KANO (AFP) - Police in Nigeria's northern state of Zamfara imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew yesterday in the capital Gusau after demonstrators protesting a fuel price hike attacked a church.

Zamfara state police spokesman Tambari Yabo said "hoodlums" smashed the windows of a Baptist church but there were no injuries, adding that 19 people had been arrested.

"As a result of an attempt to breach the peace by some unpatriotic elements who took advantage of the protest and attacked Ebenezer Baptist church, a dusk-to-dawn curfew is hereby declared in Gusau," said Tabo.

Tens of thousands demonstrated across Nigeria yesterday as part of a nationwide strike over soaring petrol prices, which resulted from a government move to end fuel subsidies on January 1.

Earlier at least 10 people were wounded when a mob which detached from a fuel price protest march in the southern city of Benin, attacked a mosque.

There are fears of wider religious violence in Africa's most populous nation and largest oil producer following repeated attacks on Christians blamed on Islamist group Boko Haram.

Officials said however that oil output was not affected in a country that produces around 2.4 million barrels per day.

Nigeria is roughly divided between a mainly Muslim north and predominantly Christian south.

## Venezuela plans 'clear' response . . .

*Continued from page 1*

The report, based on an FBI investigation, said the Cuban and Iranian diplomatic missions also appeared to be involved.

The US State Department notified the Venezuelan government of the expulsion on Friday. Acosta was ordered to leave the United States by today.

The expulsion of the Venezuelan diplomat came amid the visit to Venezuela of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who met yester-

day with President Hugo Chavez.

"The experience in our relationship with the Islamic Republic of Iran is very positive," Maduro said.

"It is a country with which Venezuela has a long term relationship, almost 50 years. With Iranian technological collaboration, we have developed some of the new industrial equipment" in Venezuela, Maduro said.

## Dutch airlines drop ticket prices for 2012

For once, there's some good news for air travelers heading to and from the Netherlands, as it appears Dutch airlines are setting their ticket prices substantially lower than last year.

On Wednesday KLM will cut ticket prices at up to 40% lower. Many airlines will follow not to lose market share.

The KLM discounts apply for eighty popular destinations across Europe, reaffirmed Harm Kreulen CEO of KLM Netherlands. The discount prices are valid for

three weeks, for traveling until mid-June.

An estimated one hundred thousand Dutch benefit from the promotion. A roundtrip to Curacao with KLM costs about Euro 499 all in, the same for New York and Istanbul 179 euros.

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from Xiamen. With the promotion KLM's plans to get their planes full faster this year.



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**TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC**

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### US 'super PAC' goes on attack for Gingrich

Television ads set to run ahead of the South Carolina primary depict unseen persons counting money from a suitcase with \$100 bills and show interviews with people who claim to have lost their jobs from companies taken over.

At Bain, the ads state, Romney's mission was "to reap massive rewards for himself and his investors."

The narrator says Romney "took foreign seed money from Latin America and began a pattern exploiting dozens of American businesses."

"Mitt Romney and his cronies pioneered 'deindustri-

alization,' a process by which they searched out vulnerable companies, took them over, loaded them with debt, and collected obscene fees while doing so," according to the PAC's website.

"He sent jobs overseas or killed them altogether, and then picked apart the remains - including pension funds -- before the companies went bankrupt."

Last month Gingrich denounced attacks on him from a committee linked to Romney called "Restore Our Future" and urged Romney to stop the ads.

"The next time you see one of the candidates who's running the negative ads, ask them to take it off the air," he implored some 200 people at an event in Iowa, where Romney narrowly won the state's key caucuses last week and Gingrich came in a poor fourth.

The new effort comes with Gingrich polling around eight to 12 percent in New Hampshire ahead of that state's Tuesday primary, where Romney leads. But the Georgia politician is closer in South Carolina with around 20 percent support.

### Romney blasts Republican attacks on jobs record

HUDSON (AFP) - Mitt Romney yesterday angrily denounced attacks by his rivals for the Republican presidential nomination over jobs lost at firms bought by his hugely rich venture capital

company.

Stung by criticisms coming chiefly from former House speaker Newt Gingrich, Romney told reporters at a hastily called press conference here that "free enter-

prise will be on trial" in New Hampshire's primary today.

"I thought it was going to come from the president and the Democrats from the left, but instead it's coming from speaker Gingrich," he said on the factory floor of Gilchrist Metal Fabricating after a rally with supporters.

Romney, who enjoys a commanding lead in public opinion polls in New Hampshire, has made his time at Bain Capital the lynchpin of his presidential bid, arguing he knows how to fix the job-hungry US economy.

The former Massachusetts governor and millionaire venture capitalist, whose firm dismantled some of the firms it bought while reaping vast profits, also complained that his rivals and Democrats had ripped his comment earlier in Nashua that "I like being able to fire people" out of context.

### British government mulls Scottish independence vote

LONDON (AFP) - The British government discussed proposals yesterday to give Scotland the legal powers to hold a referendum on independence, which could happen within the next 18 months.

Prime Minister David Cameron said a referendum should be held soon because the uncertainty about the issue was damaging Scotland's economy, although he remains strongly opposed to the break-up of the United Kingdom.

Scotland's deputy first minister Nicola Sturgeon, of the pro-independence Scottish National Party (SNP), accused Cameron of "a blatant attempt to interfere" in an issue that should be decided by Scotland and its people. In elections in May, the SNP led by Alex Salmond won the first overall majority in the Edinburgh parliament since it opened in 1999, and promised to hold a referendum on independence.

Cameron's move is being seen as a ploy to force a referendum before the SNP wants

it, in the belief that Salmond does not yet have enough support for independence.

The prime minister said ahead of a cabinet meeting at which the issue was discussed that the uncertainty about the independence issue could have economic consequences.

"This is very damaging for Scotland because all the time business is asking, is Scotland going to be part of the United Kingdom, are they going to stay together, should I invest?" he said. "And we're beginning to see companies asking those questions."

Cameron's official spokesman said the discussion in cabinet was led by Finance Minister George Osborne, who is in charge of a committee looking into the Scottish referendum issue.

The spokesman said the government would set out its views to parliament "in coming days" after receiving final legal advice, but added that in the end it would be a matter for the Scottish people.

### At least three dead in Brazil landslide

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - A landslide triggered by torrential rains killed at least three people in Rio de Janeiro state yesterday and 20 others may still be buried in the rubble, an official told Globo television.

"It occurred at 3:30 am (0530 GMT) after 12 hours of nonstop rain," Sergio Murilo, a spokesman for the northern Sapucaia municipality, told Globo by telephone.

He said eight houses collapsed and "14 to 20 people could be buried" underneath the rubble.

The road leading to the area is completely cut off which means that rescue teams can

reach the area only by helicopter.

"The mayor and an entire team went to the scene but there are huge communications and transport problems, no telephone," Murilo said.

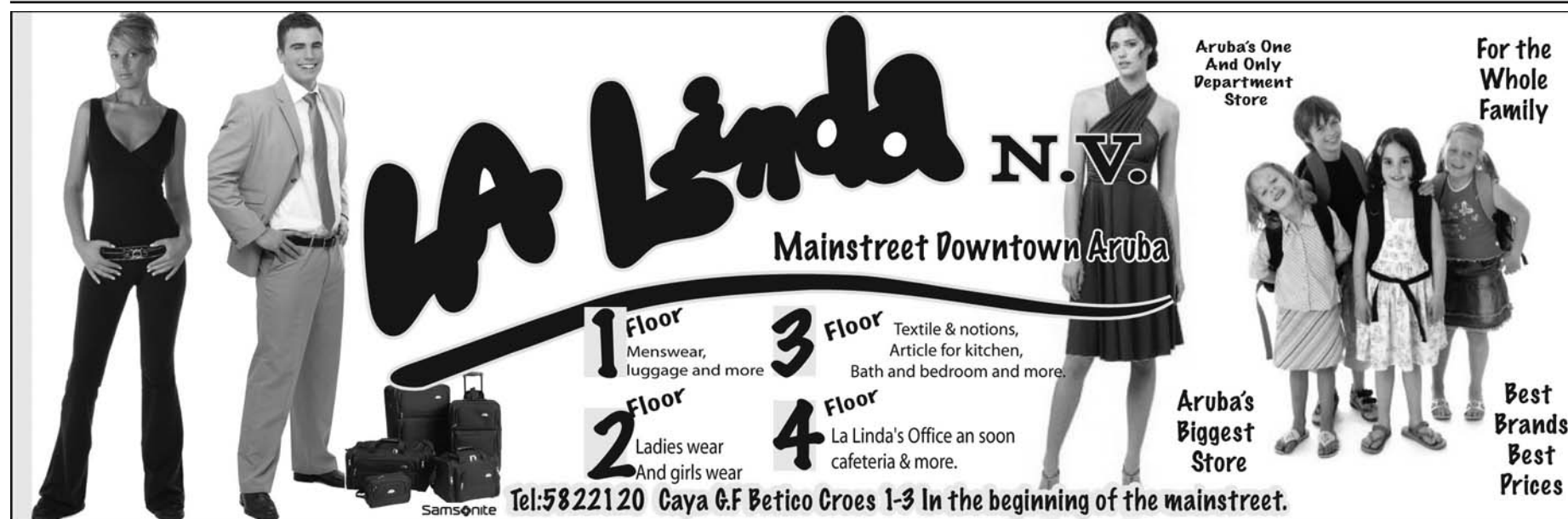
Late Sunday, authorities began evacuating 900 people in Rio de Janeiro state's northern town of Outeiro after a local dike gave way. The evacuees were being sheltered in schools, tents or by relatives.

The incident occurred in the same area where on Thursday 4,000 people were evacuated after floodwaters fed by torrential rains caused another dike burst.



NICARAGUA, Managua: AFP photo shows people demonstrating in Managua yesterday against Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, a day before his is to be inaugurated for a second consecutive mandate. (AFP PHOTO)





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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### UN: Haitian influx into Brazil no humanitarian crisis

BRASILIA (AFP) - The influx of Haitian economic migrants into Brazil does not amount to a humanitarian crisis, a spokesman for the UN refugee agency said yesterday while praising the country's efforts to welcome them.

"It is a difficult situation for the cities where the Haitians are arriving, but it is not a humanitarian crisis," said the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The influx, which began in February 2010 shortly after Haiti was devastated by an earthquake, has been accelerating in recent days.

Most of the Haitians are assembling in the towns of Tabatinga and Brasileia, on Brazil's northern border with Peru.

In Brasileia alone, there are 1,100 Haitians, many with health problems or re-

porting to have been abused by traffickers, according to human rights officials.

"The Haitians arrived claiming to be refugees although virtually none of them qualify for this status. But Brazil generously gave them a humanitarian visa so that they can stay in the country and look for work, which is what they are really after," said the UNHCR spokesman.

For that reason, the UNHCR is not directly involved but has offered to assist Brazilian authorities if needed, the source added.

The Haitians in Brasileia, which has a population of 20,000, are being sheltered in holding centers where authorities are providing food and medical care.

Many of the migrants say they had to pay between \$1,500 and \$5,000 to traffickers in exchange for air passage from Port-au-Prince to

Ecuador and Colombia from where they trek to Brazil via Peru and Bolivia.

Brazil, Latin America's dominant economy, has become the choice destination for Haitian and Bolivian migrants lured by ongoing massive infrastructure projects linked to the country's hosting of the 2014 football World Cup and the 2016 Summer Olympics.

Brazil also leads the UN peacekeeping contingent in Haiti.

### Thirteen bodies dumped near Mexican gas station

MORELIA (AFP) - Mexican police found 13 bodies dumped near a gas station in the western state of Michoacan, authorities said yesterday.

The bullet-riddled male bodies were found early yesterday in the town of Zitacuaro, according to a statement from the local attorney general's office.

Michoacan, some 200 miles (300 kilometers) west of Mexico city, is one of the worst-hit areas in a wave of drug-related violence which has left around 50,000 dead, according to media counts, since President Felipe Calderon launched a crackdown on organized crime in 2006.

Remnants of the pseudo-religious La Familia drug gang and its offshoot the Knights Templar are known to operate in the area.

The grim discovery came as pressure mounted on the government to update the official toll of the country's drug-related violence.

TAURANGA : The grounded container ship 'Rena' is seen in the Bay of Plenty near Tauranga after it broke in two in a storm. The cargo ship which caused New Zealand's worst maritime pollution disaster when it ran aground three months ago broke in two in a storm on January 8, 2012, raising fears of a fresh environmental crisis.

A team of oil-spill and wildlife specialists has been mobilised as oil again began flowing from the Rena, which has been stuck on Astrolabe Reef off the North Island resort area of Tauranga since October 5. (AFP PHOTO)



### IAEA confirms Iran enriching uranium at new plant

VIENNA (AFP) - The UN atomic agency confirmed yesterday that Iran has started enriching uranium to 20-percent purity at a new site in a difficult-to-bomb mountain bunker.

"The IAEA can confirm

that Iran has started the production of uranium enriched up to 20 percent... in the Fordo Fuel Enrichment Plant," the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna said in a statement.



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TAURANGA : Milk powder bags which were transported aboard the 'Rena' and washed ashore are collected by volunteers cleaning Waihi Beach facing the Bay of Plenty near Tauranga. New Zealand police were forced to shut down a popular beach yesterday to prevent looters raiding containers washed ashore from the stricken cargo ship. Although the devastation was not as severe as maritime officials feared, the once-pristine beaches were littered with debris, mainly timber, plastics, bags of milk powder and polystyrene. (AFP PHOTO)



## Health & Living

# Healthy eating may help ADHD kids

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Simply eating healthier may improve the behavior of children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder if therapy and medication fail, said a study published Monday in the journal Pediatrics.

Researchers, however, said that their review of recent controlled scientific studies had shown conflicting evidence on the impact of supplements and restricted diets -- in some cases they were no better than the placebo effect.

Nutritional interventions should therefore be considered an alternative or secondary approach to treating ADHD, not a first-line attack, said the review by doctors at Northwestern University Medical School in Chicago.

"Supplemental diet therapy is simple, relatively inexpensive, and more acceptable to patient and parent," than strict additive-free diets that have been popular in the past, said the study.

"Public education regarding a healthy diet pattern and lifestyle to prevent or control ADHD may have greater long-term success."

The study reviewed research published on the sugar-restricted, additive-free Feingold Diet, megavitamin therapies, omega-3 fatty acid supplementation and the suspected link between ADHD and a "Western-style" high-fat, low-fiber diet.

Three to five percent of US schoolchildren, or nearly five million youths, are diagnosed with ADHD, which involves hyperactive behavior, inability to pay attention, and impulsivity. It is often treated with stimulant medications such as the controversial Ritalin drug.

The precise causes of

ADHD are unknown, although studies have pointed to hereditary factors as well as social and environmental influences. Eating high-sugar and high-fat foods may exacerbate symptoms, some research has shown.

But while proposed interventions such as giving iron supplements or cutting out additives and food dyes have soared in popularity in recent years, the Pediatrics article said there is little solid science to back up those claims.

Even when it comes to sugar and diet soda, two elements which many parents believe can trigger hyperactivity in children, scientific studies have been unable to prove a definitive link.

"The majority of controlled studies fail to demonstrate a significant adverse effect of sucrose or aspartame," said the study.

The authors noted that avoiding high sugar foods in young children "may prevent diet-related exacerbations of ADHD."

But when parents restrict a child's sugar intake in order to ward off bad behavior, their inherent belief that it will work is likely to blur any objective assessment of whether it works or not.


"In practice, the link between sugar and hyperactive behavior is so universal in the opinion of parents of children with ADHD that no controlled study or physician counsel is likely to change this perception."

"A greater attention to the education of parents and children in a healthy dietary pattern, omitting items shown to predispose to ADHD, is perhaps the most promising and practical complementary or alternative treatment of ADHD," said the study.





SINGAPORE, Singapore : A vendor sits behind the counter selling barbecued crocodile meat at the bazaar in Singapore. According to the vendor, eating crocodile meat helps to cure asthma, a chronic respiratory disease. AFP PHOTO

## Great Happy place for the Kids to Play.

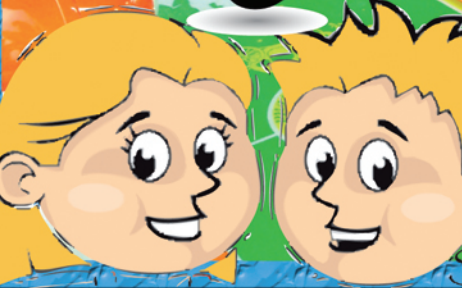


Let the Kids have Fun... while you are having fun vacation time, means having a great time. Of course together with the kids, but sometimes we all need a break. Not just the parents but also the Kids ! So let the kids play and have fun while you shop or Dine. Kids are our ViP as long as you need and as long as they want, so you can bring them in for just 1 hour, but of course they can stay longer, since they are having a great time !!!





Opening Hours:  
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Weekends from 3:00 to 12:00 pm



Play by Hours Safety Supervision Fun Clean

## 'Couch potato pill' may also prevent heatstroke

PARIS (AFP) - A drug discovered nearly four years ago that builds muscles in lazy mice may also prevent heatstroke, according to lab research reported recently.

If further tests work out, the compound could help athletes or soldiers who are so sensitive to heat that they could die from exertion on a hot day, its authors say.

In 2008, a drug known as AICAR became dubbed the "couch potato pill" after it was found to develop muscles and boost endurance among completely inactive laboratory rodents. It is now being explored as a treatment for several muscle diseases and metabolic disorders.

In a paper published by the journal Nature Medicine, researchers in the United States said they discovered by chance that AICAR also protects mice against a disorder called malignant hyperthermia.

This deadly condition is

linked to a basket of flaws in a gene called RYR1, a trait which exists in mice as well as humans.

A rise in body temperature causes a leak of calcium in muscle cells, triggering a molecular cascade that eventually makes the muscles contract and break down.

Potassium and protein then pour out of the crippled muscle cells and into the

bloodstream, reaching toxic levels that lead to heart or kidney failure.

"When we gave AICAR to the mice, it was 100 percent effective in preventing heat-induced deaths, even when we gave it no more than 10 minutes before the activity," said Susan Hamilton, a professor of molecular physiology at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas.

## Health Tip: Be Prepared for Skin Changes as You Age



As you get older, skin changes may include more than just the characteristic wrinkles of age.

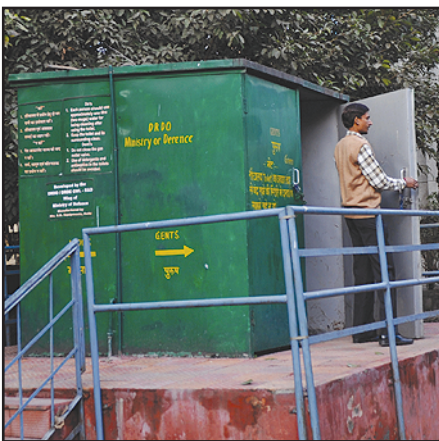
The Cleveland Clinic lists these skin changes that can occur as a result of aging:

- Itchiness and dry skin.
- Bruising more easily.
- Wrinkling skin.
- Skin tags and age ("liver") spots.



## SCI-TECH

## India army offers 'glacier toilet' in hi-tech sell-off



NEW DELHI (AFP) - Developed for troops serving on glaciers high in the Himalayas, the non-flushing "bio-digester" toilet made by India's top defence research body is now being offered to companies and poorer states.

It is one of 200 technologies produced by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) identified as for sale via the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

The national trade body

and DRDO in October forged a four-year partnership to hawk dual-use military products as part of Premier Manmohan Singh's pledge in 2008 to offer defence technology spin-offs to the public, officials said.

The "bio-digester" is among 10 of the DRDO products put on the fast-track for sale to state governments and private companies, an Indian defence ministry official added.

"Our condition is to take any non-classified technology (that can be used) for the benefit of the common man," said Nirankar Saxena, Executive Director of FICCI's Centre for Technology Commercialisation, which heads the project.

The "bio-digester" toilet conceived by a DRDO unit in the city of Gwalior, works by mixing self-multiplying bacteria with human waste in

specially-made tanks, resulting in the production of methane gas and water.

It was meant for Indian combat troops deployed on Siachen, a 6,300-metre-high (20,800-feet-high) glacier in disputed Kashmir where temperatures can fall up to to minus 50 degrees Celsius (minus 58 degrees Fahrenheit).

Experts say they believe some 5,000 soldiers are deployed on the frigid wasteland, where calm has prevailed since a 2003 cease-fire with rival Pakistan.

"Work on it began 15 years ago because excreta buried in snow by soldiers in the Siachen glacier polluted rivers when the ice melted," said scientist Vijay Veer of the Defence Research and Development Establishment, a DRDO unit.

The bacteria used in the mountain version of the toilet were originally found in Antarctica, but another cocktail can be used in the hot tropical plains where the need for toilets in India is most acute.

FICCI's Saxena said the Indian territory of Lakshadweep -- a cluster of islands -- has sought 12,000 bio-digesters at some 25,000 rupees (\$550) a unit for a major housing project.

### Next ice age not likely before 1,500 years

LONDON - High levels of carbon dioxide emissions in the atmosphere mean the next ice age is unlikely to begin for at least 1,500 years, an article in the journal Nature Geoscience said on Monday.

Concentrations of the main gases blamed for global warming reached record levels in 2010 and will linger in the atmosphere for decades even if the world stopped pumping out emissions today, according to the U.N.'s weather agency.

An ice age is a period when there is a long-term reduction in the earth's surface and atmospheric temperature, which leads to the growth of ice sheets and glaciers.

There have been at least five ice ages on earth. During ice ages there are cycles of glaciation with ice sheets both advancing and retreating.



UNITED STATES, LAS VEGAS : LAS VEGAS, NV: The video game Pac-Man is played on an iCade by Ion Audio during a press event at The Venetian for the 2012 International Consumer Electronics Show (CES) January 8, 2012 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Users can play video games on their iPads using the device. Currently more than 250 games are available and software developers can make their games work with the iCade for free. CES, the world's largest annual consumer technology trade show, runs from January 10-13 and is expected to feature 2,700 exhibitors showing off their latest products and services to about 140,000 attendees. (AFP photo)

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COMEDY MAGIC LIVE!

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SHOWTIME: 9PM NIGHTLY

STARRING: Adam Steinfeld

WHAT: Comedy Magic, Grand Illusion show.

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BOX OFFICE OPENS: 8:00PM

COST: \$20 (under 15), \$40 adult / LOCALS: Afl. 40

TICKETS: at the theater door

GROUP SALES: (297) 561-1090

WestinAruba.com/magic

MagicLive.com

MagicOnTheBeach.com

## Europe's Vega rocket launch set for early February

(AFP)--The maiden voyage of Europe's Vega rocket, designed to launch small payloads of about 1.5 tonnes into low-Earth orbit, is set for February 9, the head of the European Space Agency said Monday.

"The target date for the Vega launch, set with all the partners involved -- Ariane-space, industry, other space agencies -- is February 9," ESA's Director General Jean-Jacques Dordain said at a press conference.

The rocket is scheduled to lift the LARES (Laser Relativity Satellite), along with several other micro-satellites, from the Ariane launch site in

Kourou, French Guiana.

The ESA had hoped to put the first Vega into space as early as 2009, and in October set a January 30 date for the light rocket's first voyage.

Bringing Vega on line means that Europe will have completed its three-pronged launch capability.

Heavy-lifter Ariane ES can hoist the 20 tonnes Automated Transfer Vehicle (ATV) supply module to the International Space Station, while the Ariane ECA is designed mainly to lift communications satellites weighing up to 10 tonnes into geostationary orbit.



## COMICS

## PICKLES



## MOMMA



## CALVIN and HOBBS



## CROSSWORD

FREE Coverage on our website:

www.themorningnewsaruba.com

## CANINE CORPS

## ACROSS

1. Staccato indicators
5. Short-lived moneymaker
10. Lawn-Boy's abode
14. Provide a false alibi
15. Hotter than
16. Take-out words
17. Hendrix's inspiration et al.
19. Dark, in poems
20. Lunar New Year
21. Modular piece
22. Resist
24. Singer Laine
25. Baby-clothes fastener
26. Dead Sea item
29. Made more interesting

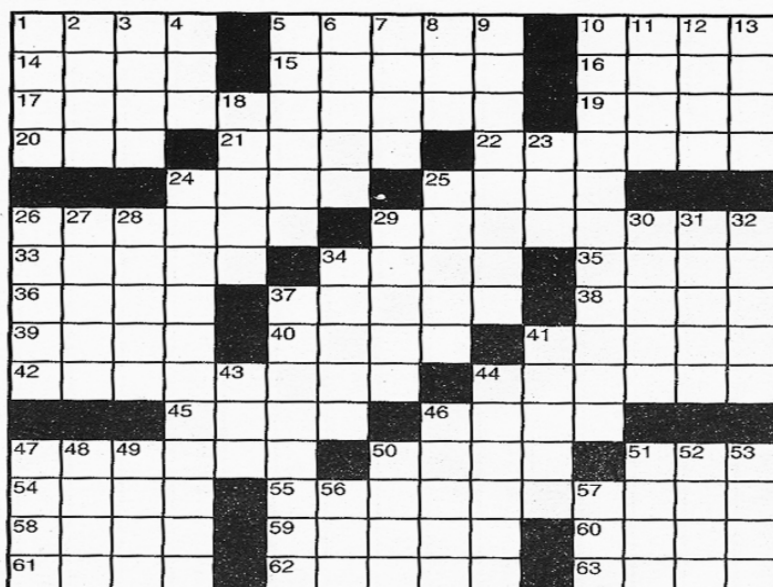
33. Platters
34. Trellis part
35. Cager Archibald
36. Aviation prefix
37. \_\_\_ rule
38. Judicial decree
39. "Let it be," to a proofreader
40. Lansbury role
41. Games expert
42. Nature, as opposed to nurture
44. Shout
45. Shopaholic's fix
46. Jersey baby
47. In fine
50. First river in the gazetteer
51. 23rd Greek letter
54. Princess daughter of Ming the

55. Non-swimmer, in the deep end
58. Olden word of disappointment
59. It follows Pisces
60. Give off fumes
61. "\_\_\_ Kind of Wonderful" (1987 film)
62. Hits the horn
63. Chats idly

## DOWN

1. Dotty
2. Wind instrument
3. College bookstore purchase
4. Farm structure
5. Classic perfume
6. Clock—

7. Mine's ventilation passage
8. End of a series
9. Variety of garnet
10. "Born to Be Wild" group
11. "Papa \_\_\_" (Paul Simon song)
12. Self concepts
13. "She \_\_\_ Him Wrong"
18. Quiet spells
23. \_\_\_-Man (classic video game)
24. South Dakota
25. Bogart's "Maltese Falcon" role
26. Squirrel away
27. El Greco's birthplace
28. Harder to locate
29. Unctuous
30. Hannah of "Splash"
31. Practical
32. Nero or Sellers
34. Chalkboard
37. Gave a friendly look
41. Sank a putt
43. River in Sweden
44. Badger
46. Ruling family of France
47. Rages
48. Continental currency
49. Ore car
50. Exchange premium
51. Court entry
52. Prospect
53. Annoys moderately
56. "Croce Di \_\_\_" (1955 Patti Page hit)
57. Thirsty

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Fri.-Sun. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

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Care Center  
Tel: 5696910

Important  
Telephone  
Numbers

## HOSPITAL

Horacio Oduber Hospital  
Tel. 5274000

## EMERGENCY

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POLICE HDQS  
Telephone 100

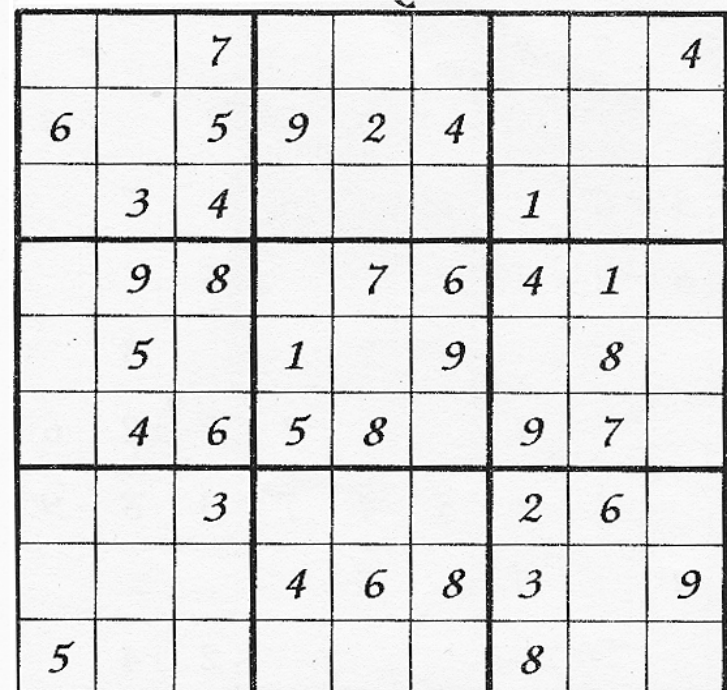
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## Sudoku



**SOLUTION**

L	4	8	2	1	5	6	9	3
6	5	8	9	7	1	2	4	3
1	9	2	5	6	4	8	7	3
2	1	6	8	5	9	7	1	4
5	8	9	6	7	1	2	3	4
3	1	7	9	4	2	8	6	5
9	2	1	4	5	8	7	3	6
8	5	4	7	2	6	3	1	9
7	6	3	1	9	4	2	8	5

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



Finance

Latest developments in the eurozone debt crisis

PARIS (AFP) - Here are the main developments in the eurozone debt crisis yesterday:

**BERLIN:** French President Nicolas Sarkozy called for a new European pact enforcing tighter budgetary discipline to be signed by member states by March 1.

**BERLIN:** German Chancellor Angela Merkel said that she favoured a financial transaction tax being introduced in the European Union or for the eurozone alone, after talks with French President Sarkozy.

**FRANKFURT:** Germany paid a negative return to investors at a debt auction, highlighting the status of Europe's biggest economy as a safe haven for investors in the current debt crisis.

**MADRID:** Spain must squeeze an "unprecedented" 40 billion euros (\$51 billion) out of the budget in 2012 so as to meet its deficit-cutting target, Moody's warned.

**BERLIN:** German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schauble said that a bailout fund set up for debt-racked eurozone countries was struggling to attract foreign investors, who were demanding higher guarantees.

**DUBLIN:** Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny said he was confident of a positive outcome from the latest review of the country's implementation of financial reforms following an international bailout.

BMW says likely to open new Brazil plant

DETROIT (AFP) - German carmaker BMW plans to open a new manufacturing plant in Brazil as the government raises barriers to imported cars to build domestic production, marketing chief Ian Robertson said yesterday.

"We are in the advanced stages of a decision for a South American operation, probably in Brazil," Robertson said at the Detroit auto show.

The company has two sites in mind for its first South American plant, he said, while not divulging the second country it could be focusing on.

"Brazil is likely to be the solution," he added.

With its fast-growing economy, Brazil is in the sights of many "premium" auto makers.

But the country is setting up barriers to imports to encourage domestic manufacturing, along with tough criteria for those setting up shop to ensure the carmaker does more than simple assembly.

BMW sold 15,000 cars in Brazil last year, double the level of 2009.

Robertson cited rising "protectionism" by countries seeking to press carmakers to manufacture for its plans to expand production facilities in various markets around the world.

But he said demand for BMWs worldwide is strong enough to support the expansion of production in numerous locations.

"We are running all our plants on top capacity."



Detroit hails resurgence of auto industry

DETROIT (AFP) - Detroit celebrated the resurgence of the US auto industry yesterday as a renewed sense of optimism - along with a dose of glamour and glitz -- returned to the Motor City's annual auto show.

"As you look at these breathtaking vehicles, I ask you to remember they represent more than creative thinking and design," US Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood said at the opening ceremony.


"They represent American factories bustling and humming, American workers churning out cars, and American families earning paychecks again."

Just three years ago, the survival of the Detroit Three automakers was in doubt as General Motors and Chrysler sought billions in government bailouts and Ford's balance sheets hemorrhaged red ink during the deepest economic downturn in decades.

All three of Detroit's carmakers are now yielding profits again for the first time since 2004 and posting market share gains for the first time since 1988.

Experts also predict car companies will add 190,000 jobs by 2015, after shedding 400,000 jobs in 2008, LaHood said.

While the industry still faces deep risks -- especially in Europe -- global auto sales are forecast to grow from around 70 million vehicles in 2012 to 110 million in 2020, Mercedes chief executive Dieter Zetsche said.



Daily Exchange Rates

Current as of: 01/09/2011	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.71	1.73	1.75
Britain	GBP	2.68	2.73	2.79
Switzerland	CHF	186.57	187.29	188.09
Netherlands	EUR	224.64	226.69	228.97
Sweden	SEK	24.67	25.39	26.19
Denmark	DKK	29.52	30.24	31.04
Norway	NOK	28.63	29.35	30.15
Japan	JPY	229.53	231.63	233.95

(per 10,000)

All rates for amounts up to AWG 100.00 per item.

Statoil makes major oil discovery in Barents Sea



Handout picture released by Statoil is taken onboard the drilling rig Aker Barents in the Barents Sea yesterday, where Norway's Statoil announced a major oil discovery in the Barents Sea that could contain up to 300 million barrels of crude. The Havis prospect is the twin of Skrugard, another deposit Statoil discovered in April 2011, confirming the potential of the waters as yet untapped in the Barents Sea.

AFP PHOTO

Minimum wage hike will keep Brazil growing

BRASILIA (AFP) - Brazil's uptick in its minimum wage and increasing consumption will keep the economy humming in 2012 despite the global slowdown, President Dilma Rousseff said yesterday.

"The increase of the minimum wage is important because families will be able to consume more and live better," she said.

"With it, there will be more demand for our industry, trade and services, maintaining the dynamism and keeping the wheel of the economy spinning so that Brazil will continue to grow."

Some 40 million Brazilian workers and retirees directly benefit from the higher minimum wage, which on January 1 rose to the equivalent of \$332 per month from \$294.

For 2012, the government is banking on five percent GDP growth, to be fueled by, in addition to the increase in the minimum wage, tax rebates, industry incentives as well as a cut in interest rates.

EU bond sale raises 3.0 bn euros for Ireland, Portugal

BRUSSELS (AFP) - The European Union raised 3.0 billion euros (\$3.8 billion) yesterday in a successful 30-year bond sale for bailed-out eurozone nations Ireland and Portugal.

The first auction of the year was "a statement of market confidence to the EU," the European Commission said, adding that Ireland and Portugal will each get 1.5 billion euros from the sale on January 16.

Demand for the long-term debt was high, with bids totalling 5.2 billion euros and orders closing within two hours. The bond, which matures on April 4, 2042, pays a coupon of 3.75 percent.

Most demand came from within the 27-nation EU, with German investors accounting for 70 percent follow by Britain at 13 percent and Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg 8.0 percent.

With Ireland and Portugal effectively shut out of the mar-

SATURDAY'S Crossword Answer

S	K	E	W	A	S	P	I	C	G	A	S	T
O	I	S	E	T	E	A	S	E	O	D	O	R
L	E	N	A	E	A	S	E	L	M	A	N	E
O	V	E	R	P	A	S	S	E	E	N	E	R
A	M	O	K	B	A	T						
A	D	A	P	T	N	E	T	H	O	F	F	A
P	I	R	A	T	E	Y	R	S	P	A	U	L
P	A	S	S	I	O	N	I	M	P	A	S	S
E	N	O	S	S	I	S	U	L	S	T	E	R
L	A	N	A	I	P	U	P	O	S	S	E	T
G	N	U	R	E	E	D						
C	O	G	E	N	T	P	A	S	S	W	O	R
A	V	O	W	T	I	A	N	T	A	R	E	A
M	A	Y	A	E	N	S	U	E	S	L	A	T
P	L	A	Y	R	E	S	T	S	H	Y	D	E



## Mandela's life story to be turned into TV series



JOHANNESBURG (AFP) - Anti-apartheid icon Nelson Mandela's life story is to be turned into a six-part television mini-series co-created by his grandson, the producers behind the multinational project said Monday.

Entitled "Madiba", Mandela's clan name, the series "will take a broad view of the inner passions and outside forces that guided him," they said in a statement.

With a budget of \$30 million (24 million euros), the project will explore Mandela's relationship with his mother, his political activism, imprisonment, rise as political leader and election as South Africa's first black president.

The producers will announce

who will play the democracy icon once casting finishes in the next few weeks, said Lance Samuels, whose South African production house Out of Africa will co-produce the series with Kweku Mandela, a grandson to the apartheid hero.

The Nelson Mandela Foundation said it supported the undertaking and was helping with research.

The Nobel Peace Prize-winner was imprisoned for 27 years for his fight against white oppression in South Africa. He was freed in 1990 and elected president four years later.

Kweku Mandela said it would seek to portray "Mandela the man" instead of "Mandela the saint."

The screenplay will be based on two Mandela books -- his autobiographical "Conversations with Myself" and a book of authorised quotations, "Nelson Mandela by Himself".

Public interest in Mandela, 93, has remained strong throughout his imprisonment, political career and retirement.



### Early Bird Special \$ 24.95

5pm to 7pm No service charge. Free glass of wine

**Entree:**  
\* Soup of the day- or Home salad - or Caesar Salad

**Main Dish**  
Home made stew chicken ( jerk chicken)  
or  
Arawak steak  
(Tenderloin steak with caramelized onions)  
or  
Fish Fillet (Grouper ) creamy garlic or Criollo sauce.

All served with : Rice -fried plantain or polenta (funchi) with vegetables.

**Dessert**  
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## 'Devil Inside' tops North American box office

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - The newly-released horror flick "The Devil Inside" topped the North American box office at the weekend, according to estimates published Sunday by the film industry group Exhibitor Relations.

The dark tale about a girl trying to lead an exorcism on her mother took \$34.5 million in ticket sales in the

United States and Canada, and knocked Tom Cruise's "Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol," off the top spot.

The Cruise movie, which earned \$20.5 million at the weekend according to the preliminary figures, has amassed \$170.2 million since its release.

The weekend sales estimates said "Sherlock Holmes: A Game Of Shad-

ows," took \$14.1 million, in third place this week, bringing its four-week running total up to \$157.4 million.

"The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo," starring British heart-throb Daniel Craig, was in fifth place, taking an estimated \$11.4 million in sales, and "Alvin And the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked," was in sixth place with \$9.5 million in earnings.

## Participate in

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## spectacular Carnival photo contest!

**Contest Rules:**

1. Subscribe to THE MORNING NEWS online - it's free!!
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3. Send an e-mail to [themorningnewsaruba@aol.com](mailto:themorningnewsaruba@aol.com) to inform the office of your user name and contact info: real name, address, & phone number, and receive 1 raffle ticket
4. Like us on Facebook, and receive a second raffle ticket
5. Raffle tickets are for final drawing on Ash Wednesday 2012;
6. **Grand Prize:**  
Airfare for two to Bonaire with Tiara Airlines and other fabulous prizes

**Photo contest prizes: You must subscribe to submit**

1. Send us your favorite carnival pix via e-mail or deliver to our office on Caya Betico Croes Just across from the Valero station.
2. "Picks of the day and week" will appear in THE MORNING NEWS
3. Contest begins today and deadline for submissions of photos is Monday, February 20, 2012 at 6:00 PM; drawing for raffle will take place on Ash Wednesday, February 22.
4. Judging is final; winners will be announced in Friday's paper, February 24.
5. Each photo submission earns a raffle ticket towards the Ash Wednesday drawing

**Prizes for the Carnival photo Contest:**

**Grand Prize:** 3 days/2 nights stay at Boardwalk Apartments

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize:** Trip for two on Mi Dushi Sailboat

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize:** Complete Play package at Cool Casino

Prize winners will receive additional raffle tickets towards final drawing, and a special surprise for the grand prize winning photo.

No purchase necessary to participate; subscription to THE MORNING NEWS and submission of photos are free; photos will only be used for Carnival promotion and owners retain all rights.



## Win airfare to Bonaire and other great prizes - no purchase necessary! Send us your Carnival pix and see them published



## Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate in-



ken to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there."

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of Gold Coast Aruba which when complete will be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community



vestment on Aruba. They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart of Malmok, considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches and all the action, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway; we are very pleased by the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spo-

pool areas, The Clubhouse is about to start construction and will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area and is expected to be complete by early 2013. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services program. There is always a great demand for Aruba and facilities such as those at Gold Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, taking full advantage of the is-

land environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the décor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the least is the future value of the investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International, the world's largest network of vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management department. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activities.

Visit their website: [www.goldcoastaruba.com](http://www.goldcoastaruba.com) for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.

## Adorable and affordable; 5 Burgers Aruba offers an island twist to the great American Burger

Expatriates residing on Aruba, Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. Some may be quite well acquainted with a nationally known U.S. franchise bearing the name "5", and patrons can expect the same great quality between the buns, but an expanded menu and Rosie and Aaron's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what



Rosie and Aaron love their burger too



Gouda Burger 2

they really want has resulted in a unique menu.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," comments Aaron; and upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy, made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

Prices vary only slightly between regular and small (basically 2 patties or 1) with specialty items such as Gouda Burger, Farmer's Burger, Man Burger (almost 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with crispy onion rings and BBQ sauce. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jalapeño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.


5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries, which are

made from hand-cut fresh Idaho potatoes, is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!" Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

If you are a fan of crispy friend onion rings, as we are at THE MORNING NEWS, you cannot leave there without trying their secret recipe battered gourmet rings, made from fresh, not frozen onions. Unquestionably, the best we have had anywhere, and for those that like a little spice, the fried jalapeños are a real treat. Aaron and Rosie have expanded their menu to accommodate certain tastes and dietary needs; they offer a tasty grilled chicken sandwich as well.

5 Burgers Aruba is open for lunch & dinner - daily hours are Noon to 10-ish; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner or Manager Marc Anthony when things are not too busy, to sit and chat while sharing their knowledge of the island. Totally yummy and fun plus a great deal for a quality burger, they are definitely worth a visit





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## Broncos stun Steelers, Giants advance in playoffs

NEW YORK (AFP) - Tim Tebow threw an 80-yard touchdown pass to Demaryius Thomas only 11 seconds into over-time on Sunday to give Denver a stunning 29-23 NFL playoff upset of six-time Super Bowl champion Pittsburgh.

Thomas caught the ball running across the middle, stiff-armed defender Ike Taylor and ran the last 60 yards into the end zone to put the Broncos, who lost their final three regular-season games, into the second round of the playoffs.

"I don't think it's the first time our offense has clicked in but it certainly was well timed," Broncos coach John Fox said. "I don't think we reinvented the wheel. We just executed better."

"A lot of that was because of our quarterback. He stepped up and played well and was a big part of our winning that game."

Southpaw quarterback Tebow recaptured the magic of his mid-season six-game win streak, throwing for 316 yards and two touchdowns and running for another. But his last play was his greatest, ending the shortest over-time in NFL playoff history.

"They made the significant plays that allowed them to win," Steelers coach Mike Tomlin said. "It was what we expected. He did a nice job. A lot of guys did."

Denver will visit New England next Saturday while Houston will travel to Baltimore next Sunday in American Conference second-round games.

In Sunday's other playoff game, Eli Manning threw three touchdown passes, two of them to Hakeem Nicks, and the New York Giants advanced with a 24-2 victory over visiting Atlanta.

Manning completed 23-of-32 passes for 277 yards

while Nicks caught six passes for 115 yards as the Giants won the first playoff game in their new stadium for their first home playoff triumph since 2000.

The Giants booked a second-round visit next Sunday to defending Super Bowl champion Green Bay while New Orleans, on a nine-game win streak, goes to San Francisco next Saturday in the other National Conference matchup.

At Denver, Pittsburgh's Ben Roethlisberger connected with Jericho Cotchery on a 31-yard touchdown pass with 3:48 to play, pulling the Steelers level at 23-23 and setting the stage for Tebow's over-time heroics.

Pittsburgh's Ryan Mundy forced a fumble by Broncos rusher Willis McGahee and LaMarr Woodley recovered for the Steelers near midfield to set up the drive for the equalizer.

Mike Wallace ran one yard on a sweep around the right side that capped an 87-yard, 11-play march and pulled Pittsburgh within 20-13 with 4:29 to play in the third quarter.

Denver answered on Matt Prater's 35-yard field goal with 13:10 to play but Shaun Suisham responded with a 37-yard field goal 3:11 later to keep Pittsburgh within a touchdown.

Suisham kicked field goals of 38 and 45 yards in the first quarter to give the Steelers a 6-0 lead but the Broncos answered quickly.

Tebow threw a 30-yard touchdown pass to Eddie Royal 96 seconds into the second quarter and followed with an 8-yard touchdown run 2:48 later. Prater added field goals of 20 and 28 yards to give Denver a 20-6 half-time lead.

## Venus Williams withdraws from Australian Open



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Seven-time Grand Slam singles champion Venus Williams withdrew from the Australian Open on Monday as she struggles to return from the autoimmune disease Sjogren's syndrome.

In a posting on her website, the US star said that she has been making progress and plans to return to WTA Tour play in February, when events begin in the United States.

"I regret to announce that I am withdrawing from the 2012 Australian Open," Williams posted on her website.

"After several months of training and treatment, I am making steady progress to top competitive form."

"My diet and fitness regimen have allowed me to make great strides in terms of my health and I am very close to being ready to return to WTA competition. I have every intention to return to the circuit in February."

Williams, 31, whose ranking has slipped to 100th in the world, pulled out of last week's WTA event in Auckland because of the illness, which saps her energy, causing fatigue and joint pains.

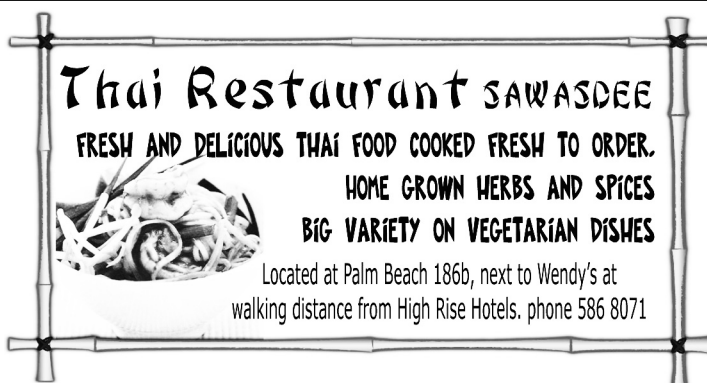
## Son of Packers' offensive coordinator is missing

GREEN BAY (AFP) - The son of Green Bay Packers offensive coordinator Joe Philbin has been reported missing to police as the reigning Super Bowl champions prepare for a home playoff game on Sunday.

Michael Philbin, 21, was last in touch with friends early last Sunday morning after visiting friends in Oshkosh. He was reported missing on Sunday night.

"The Packers organization is aware of the missing person report regarding Michael Philbin, son of offensive coordinator Joe Philbin," Packers general manager Ted Thompson said in a statement.

"Our thoughts and prayers



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## Larkin voted into Hall of Fame



NEW YORK (AFP) - Barry Larkin, a 12-time Major League Baseball All-Star shortstop, was voted into the Baseball Hall of Fame with 86 percent of possible votes, officials announced on Monday.

Larkin, the long-time Cincinnati Reds star who won the 1995 National League Most Valuable Player award, will be enshrined July

22 at the sport shrine in Cooperstown, New York, alongside the late Ron Santo.

Former Chicago Cubs third baseman Santo was elected last month, a year after he died of complications of bladder cancer at age 70, by the veterans panel charged with looking at players beyond the modern era.

Candidates like Larkin from recent seasons must receive 75 percent of votes from a media panel to be elected into the Hall of Fame. Larkin received 62.1 percent of votes last year, his second year on the Hall of Fame ballot.

Larkin won a World Series title in 1990 with the Reds, who swept Oakland in the best-of-seven championship final. He had a .295 lifetime batting average over a 19-year career.

Hall of Fame voting is expected to raise greater awareness starting next year when superstar players tainted by connections to steroids or human growth hormone become eligible for the first time.

That list includes US all-time home run king Barry Bonds, Dominican Republic slugger Sammy Sosa and ace pitcher Roger Clemens.

are with the Philbin family during this difficult time. We ask anyone with information about Michael to contact the Oshkosh Police Department."

Philbin's disappearance came the same day the Packers learned they will play host to the New York Giants in the second round of the National Football League playoffs. The Packers earned a first-round bye after going 15-1 this season.

Joe Philbin has served as the Packers' offensive coordinator since 2007 and was on the coaching staff for four years prior to taking charge of the Green Bay attack.



# Messi wins third straight Ballon d'Or

Continued from pg 16

"I want to share this honour with my team-mate, Xavi," added Messi, who then addressed his club-mate in the audience at the FIFA Ballon d'Or Gala.

"He deserves it, too. I want to share it with you, because you deserve it as much as me. It's a pleasure to be here alongside him and to play with him."

The award was formed when the Ballon d'Or merged with the FIFA World Player of the Year award in 2010 and is voted for by national team coaches and captains, as well as a panel of football journalists selected by France Football magazine.

Messi was the strong favourite to retain his prize after a year in which he inspired his club to five trophies, including the Champions League, the FIFA Club World Cup and a third consecutive La Liga title.

He scored twice, including a memorable solo goal at the Bernabeu, as Barca beat old enemies Madrid in the Champions League semi-finals and he was also on target from long range in the 3-1 defeat of Manchester United in the final at Wembley.

This season he has scored his 200th goal for Barcelona and is closing in on Cesar Rodriguez's all-time record

of 235 goals for the club.

Barcelona were given further reason to celebrate when Guardiola was named FIFA Coach of the Year.

The 40-year-old former Barcelona and Spain midfielder had been nominated alongside Madrid's Jose Mourinho - winner last year after guiding Inter Milan to three trophies including the Champions League - and Sir Alex Ferguson of Manchester United.

"I want to dedicate this award to the thousands of people who, through more than a hundred years, have worked for FC Barcelona and helped develop one of the best clubs in the world," said Guardiola.

The blow was softened for Ferguson by the FIFA Presidential Award, which was presented to him by FIFA president Sepp Blatter in recognition of his 25 years of service in the Old Trafford dug-out.

"I've been a lucky manager to have such great players from the word go right through to today," said the 70-year-old Scot.

"What makes United such a special club, from our past right up to the present day, is that they have always retained the courage to play and the courage to win."

Barca boasted five players in the FIFPro XI for 2011, with Dani Alves, Gerard Pique and Andres Iniesta selected alongside Xavi and Messi.

Madrid had four representatives -- Iker Casillas, Sergio Ramos, Xabi Alonso and Ronaldo -- while Manchester United pair Nemanja Vidic and Wayne Rooney completed the line-up.

Messi and Rooney missed out on the FIFA Puskas Award for the best goal of 2011, which was awarded to Santos forward Neymar for a remarkable solo goal that he scored in a Brazilian league game against Flamengo.

Japanese midfielder Homare Sawa claimed the women's equivalent of the Ballon d'Or, after she won the Golden Boot for top scorer and the Golden Ball for player of the tournament as Japan secured their first ever women's World Cup title in Germany.

Marta of Brazil and United States striker Abby Wambach were also nominated.

Japan coach Norio Sasaki was named Women's Coach of the Year, ahead of France coach Bruno Bini and the USA's Swedish coach Pia Sundhage.

## Magic big man Howard still wants trade: report

ORLANDO (AFP) - Orlando Magic All-Star center Dwight Howard remains adamant about his request to be traded by the NBA's March 15 transfer deadline, the Orlando Sentinel reported on Monday.

Magic general manager Otis Smith said in an interview with the newspaper that Howard has not reversed his demand for a trade nor to his knowledge changed his list of preferred new clubs.



The Magic have given Howard's agent permission to

speak with the reigning NBA champion Dallas Mavericks, the Los Angeles Lakers and the New Jersey Nets about a trade deal.

Orlando made a first-round exit in last season's NBA playoffs and Howard has said the team has not done enough to surround him with players he wanted with him in quest of an NBA title.

Howard could be the second superstar big man to leave the Magic, who saw Shaquille O'Neal leave in 1996 for a deal with the Los Angeles Lakers. "Shaq" helped the Lakers to three consecutive NBA titles starting in 2000.

Orlando was swept by Houston in the 1995 NBA Finals and lost to the Lakers in five games in 2009 in the Magic's only trips to the best-of-seven NBA Championship series.

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## Tiger to make US PGA 2012 debut at Pebble Beach



PEBBLE BEACH (AFP) - Tiger Woods will play his first US PGA event of the 2012 season at next month's Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, the 14-time major champion announced Monday on his website.

The appearance will be the first for Woods at the event since 2002. He won the Pebble Beach Pro-Am in 2000, rallying from five strokes back in the last round, and won the US Open four months later by a record-setting 15 strokes.

"I'm excited to start my PGA season at the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am," Woods said. "I'm looking forward to playing in this event. I haven't been to this tournament lately, but I have a lot of good memories at Pebble."

The major victory at Peb-

ble Beach began a run of four major titles in a row for Woods, the famed "Tiger Slam". Woods, who first saw the Pacific Ocean-side layout as a junior golfer, shared fourth at the 2010 US Open at Pebble Beach.

"It has always been one of my favorite spots," Woods said. "It might be the prettiest place on Earth."

Woods will open his 2012 season on January 26 at the HSBC Championship in Abu Dhabi.

The Pro-Am features play on Spyglass Hill and Monterey Peninsula's Shore course as well as Pebble Beach in the first three rounds.

"I've never played Monterey Peninsula and am looking forward to it," Woods said. "From all I've heard, it's a wonderful course and the greens are fast."

Woods snapped a two-year win drought last month by winning the 18-man World Challenge event to benefit his foundation, but has not won a US PGA event since September of 2009.

"It was great to finish 2011 strong," Woods said. "More importantly, it's good to be healthy again. I'm hoping to get off to a fast start."

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## Messi wins third straight Ballon d'Or



ZURICH (AFP) - Lionel Messi (pictured) was on Monday awarded the 2011 FIFA Ballon d'Or at a star-studded ceremony in Zurich, the third consecutive year that he has won the prestigious award for the world's outstanding footballer.

The 24-year-old Barcelona and Argentina forward finished ahead of his Real Madrid rival Cristiano Ronaldo and Barca teammate Xavi.

"It's a great personal pleasure for me," said Messi.

"It's the third time I've won it. It's just an amazing honour. I want to thank everyone that's been involved with me -- my team-mates, trainers, physios, the coach (Pep Guardiola) and everyone at Barcelona.

"I'd also like to thank the Argentina national team as well."

Messi becomes only the second player, after current UEFA president Michel Platini, to win the award for three consecutive years.

He also joins Platini, Johan Cruyff and Marco van Basten as the only men to have won the prize on three occasions.

Continue on pg 15

## Broncos stun Steelers, Giants advance in playoffs



DENVER, COLORADO: Tim Tebow #15 of the Denver Broncos hugs teammate Willis McGahee #23 after defeating the Pittsburgh Steelers in overtime of the AFC Wild Card Playoff game at Sports Authority Field at Mile High on January 8, 2012 in Denver, Colorado. The Denver Broncos defeated the Pittsburgh Steelers in overtime 23 - 29. (see story on pg 14)

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